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On the Cure of Fever

✓ Dr Hillary favours this Opinion
in the history of an epidemic fever in Barbados
terminated on the 19th day. One of his
patients in the course of the fever lost
thin of blood from the hemorrhoidal
vessels, and yet the fever ran its
course & did not terminate till the
14th day. Sir J^o Pringle likewise favours this
Opinion ~~and says that the propriety of attempting to cure
the fever by evacuating the bowels is supported by the facts.~~
~~It is no objection to this character of~~
certain fevers, that Intermittents ~~are~~
~~are~~ cured by Bark immediately after they
are formed. ~~They are not~~ But this is
not the case. The Intermittent runs
its course in spite of all that is usually
done to prevent it. The Bark only
prevents its return, on a relapse of the
fever by obviating the debility upon
which it depends. I conclude therefore
that there is

We proceed next to speak of the Cure of
 after it is formed;
ever and here an important question
 meets us, and that is, is fever a curable
 disease, that is do we ever cure fevers,
 or do we only prevent death by our
 remedies until fevers have ~~run~~ ^{ran} their
 course, and terminated of themselves.
 Dr. Lushington supposes we never cure a
 fever ~~the~~ ^{the} remitting fever of which Cl
 -matis after it is completely formed.
 There is certainly ^a ~~some~~ foundation for
 this opinion, as far as it extends to
 fevers which are under the dominion
 of critical days, ~~and then~~ such as
 the bilious fevers of all countries. ^{The}
 Opinion is favoured by the analogy of
 the small pox - measles of whooping cough which
 always run their course in spite of all

weakness & perhaps
✓ the syncope thus induced, favoured
the blood vessels resuming their natural
and healthy actions.

That there is

that ^{we} can do to assist or cure them. But to
this remark of Dr. Hichour ~~is to be added~~
there are certainly many exceptions. I shall
briefly mention them.

2. There were several instances of the extinc-
tion of yellow fever after it was found in
this city in the year 1793 from profuse
hemorrhages from the nose, and from the
nose after bloodletting. Dr. Parry says similar
cures took place in the West Indies of the
yellow fever, from the same cause. Pa-
tient he says awoke free from fever in
a bath of their own blood. Dr. Parry
says he has seen fevers arise from ex-
cessive bleeding from the nose, but
never saw a cure performed by it. The
hemorrhage in this case was probably
small, compared with those which I
have mentioned in the yellow fever.
3. A Colera morbus has sometimes
suddenly cured a fever after it was

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completely formed. In Dr^r Pringle says
the only cure he ever saw of a fever
when formed, was by this intestinal
discharge. I have seen several cures of
yellow fever by the same remedy in
the hands both of nature and art.

3 Profuse Sweats. These it is said, ^{to} have
sometimes extinguished a fever. ~~But~~
In Dr^r Pringle bears a testimony against
their efficacy in the history of a man
a mate in the British military hospital
in Germany whom he attempted to cure
on the 4th and 5th days of a fever with
^{& sudorific} cordial medicines. ~~The~~ Sweats it is true he
^{days} were excited, but the fever continued
until the 17th day, when it gently termi-
-nated with a moisture all over
his body & a sediment in his Urine.

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My experience is against all cures at-
tempted in this way. I have seen
the a mild fever rendered inflam^y. &
violent, and even death induced by the
profuse sweats which have been forced
from the body in the first stage of fever.

4 a strong dose of Opium. of the efficacy
of this remedy in ~~eradicating~~ ^{eradicating} a fever
After it was formed, two instances have
occurred in Philad^a - one in which it was
given by mistake, and the other by a
physician in ~~this city~~.

5 large doses of Bark given in the first
or second remission of a bilious fever
so as reduce the ^{blood vessels} down to Opopina
or completely to prostrate them. I have
known this remedy to succeed, ~~on~~ but
the cure was always followed by obstruc-
tions in the viscera, or the most

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Disturbing nervous Affections. A Gentle-
man from South Carolina who was
cured in this way of a fever by a
~~Gentleman~~ Physician in London of
great Acuity of Ennerness, said of
him to one of his friends afterwards.
"He gained ^{my} Affection by his humanity,
but he ruined my Constitution at the
same time by his remedies."

6 Large Draughts of Ardent ~~and~~ and ~~dis-~~fer-
mented liquors. These extinguish a
fever when they bring on Drunkenness
only. I have known death to be
induced in two instances by ~~these~~ ^{one}
of these liquors. viz a bottle of wine
taken after the formation of the
fever. —

7 The Pediluvium. I cannot say I

✓ 9 The hot and cold Bath used in
Inception ~~I shall mention~~ After the
manner of the Indians. I shall
describe this remedy & its success
hereafter.

10 violent frictions, and carrying ^{heavy} weights.
I shall speak of both these remedies
hereafter.

I never saw a single instance of a fever being cured by this remedy. On the contrary, I have seen it in many instances increase the fever & even induce Delirium, and perhaps contribute to a fatal issue of the disease. --

& affusions of Cold water. Dr Currie says he cured fevers on the 3rd, 4th & 5th days with this remedy, but never after they had passed the 5th day. ~~→~~

11th The sudden motions of the wind. I say, ~~the~~ ^{these} sudden motions of the wind, I say, ~~the~~ ^{these} have in many instances, ^{appeared to} cut short the duration of fever. Dr Miller mentions a remarkable instance of the terror excited ~~on~~ by a storm curing a ^{fever} ~~gentleman~~ on board of the middlesex Indianman on her way to India. A Battle in two instances had the same effect in the two ships of war be-
-longing to

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~~to the British Navy~~

of the hot and cold Baths used after the Indian manner, and thus described by Will^m Penn in a letter to Dr Baynard dated Pennsylvania in the year 1683.

"Being upon a discovery upon the back part of the Country, I called upon an Indian of note who was the Captain General of the Clans of the Indians in those parts. I found him ill of a fever. His head & limbs were much affected with pain, and at the same time his wife was preparing a Bagno for him. The Bagno resembled a large oven into which he crept by a door upon the one side, while his wife put several

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ed hot steam into a small door on
the other side, and then fastened the
door as closely ^{from the external air} as she could. Now while
he was sweating in this Bagno, his
wife was cutting a passage for her hus-
-band into the river (being the winter
of 1683 in which there was a great
frost, and the ice very thick) in order
to the immersing himself after he
came out of ^{his} Bath. In less than
half an hour he was in so great
a sweat, that when he came out, he
was as wet as if he had come out of a
river, and the steam from his body so
thick that it was hard to discern
any body; so that I stood near him
In this condition, with his ^{breath} ~~breath~~

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clout only on him) he ran to the river, which was about 20 paces from his Bagrio, and Ducked himself twice or thrice therein, and so returned, passing thro his Bagrio to mitigate the stroke of the cold to his own house, ^{which was} about 20 paces further, where After wrapping himself ⁱⁿ up in his woollen mantle he ~~lay~~ ^{la} down at full length, near a long, but gentle fire in the middle of his wigwam, turning himself several times until he was dry, when he arose, and assisted in getting us dinner, seeming to be as easy, and as well in health as at any other time". The Russians



use a Bath similar to that which I have described, not for the cure of Diseases, but for the preservation of health.

10 Overstretching the ~~see~~ body. The Indians avail themselves of this remedy by suspending themselves by the arm of the affected side in a Plume: - upon the limb of a tree. -

11 Powerful Frictions. Capt Cook was cured in a single night in one of the friendly Islands, of an acute Rheumatism by being severely rubbed for one hour by one of the natives from which he experienced great pain. He was perfectly well the next day.

12 Violent exercise or labor. I shall

herafter inform you that a farmer
in Scotland cured the most acute &
inflammatory state ~~by~~ of madness by
compelling his patients to perform the
labor of horses by ~~work~~ working them
in his ploughs.

13 hidden emotions of the mind. Joy
anger & terror have in many instances
appeared to cut short the duration
of fever. Dr McLen mentions a
remarkable instance of the fever excited
by a sea storm curing a fever on
board the middlesex Indiaman on
her Voyage to India. a battle in two
instances had the same effect on
board the two ships belonging to



The British Navy. —



to the British Army.

suddenly equalising the excitement of the
 Upon all these erodes of ~~pathology~~
^{system and thereby}
 curing fevers before they had run their
 natural course, I ~~would~~ ^{shall} make two
 remarks. 1. How do we know the
 Cures were not performed upon one
 of those days on which the fever would
 have terminated of its ^{own} accord? all fevers
 I shall say ^{hereafter} ~~here~~ tend to a solution of cer-
 tain days which have been called
 critical, These days are unknown or
 imperfectly known by physicians, &
 the cure supposed to have been perfor-
 med by the above remedies, may have
 accidentally coincided with the natu-
 ral termination of the fever. — But
 2^{ly} Admitting these Cures to have

✓ This fever was probably of a
feble nature, in which there was
no danger of disorganizing any
part of the body, but in ~~case of~~
~~violent fever they sh?~~ by no means
~~be employed by a physician.~~ or
it was of a Antifugal Dissection as
Rheumatism in which there was
no danger of injury to the viscera, or
it was in Indian constitutions, or in
constitutions equally robust. That ^{an} the
Indian Constitution is unequal to bear
that one of the remedies I have mentioned
I infer from a fact ~~mentioned~~ related in
McKerr's letter just now quoted, and
that is, ~~that the Indians~~ after the
Indians became debilitated by their

been used, and the remedies that have
 been mentioned ^{to} have actually extinguish-
 ed, or strangled a fever, ^{In cases of violent} ~~yet they should~~
~~be used in persons of vigorous habits, none of whom~~
~~by any means be employed by a physician,~~
~~of those fevers, unless they be employed by a physician,~~
~~cases by a physician.~~ They sometimes
 suddenly destroy life, but where they
 have not this effect, they do great
 violence to the system by engendering
 blood vessels or inducing obstructions in
 the viscera, or fixing a disease upon
 the brain or nerves for ^{which} ~~life~~
 there is often no cure. These remedies
 may be compared when used in ^{fevers} ~~violent~~
 of great morbid action, to the risk of
 storming a Citadel the first day an army
 arrives before it, while its garrison is in
 high health and spirits, instead of attack-
 ing it by regular approaches, and com-
 pelling the garrison to submit from an-

intercourse with the white people, they pre-
ferred in the use of that violent remedy.

V Let it not be supposed that I wish
to restrain attempts to ^{even violent} cure fevers by
remedies that act suddenly & powerfully
by ~~exhausting~~ ^{exhausting the excitement of} ~~repressing~~ the system. It is possible ~~being~~
in a more improved state of medicine
those who fill our places, may be as
much struck with our folly in per-
mitting fevers to run their course,
as we are in reviewing the practice
of our forefathers who have left fevers to
the hands of nature to be cured by
~~crossing the system~~ ^{absorption}, remember
it absorbs ~~into~~ in every part of the
body. — It is certain we strangle many
diseases in their first stage & as I shall
say hereafter, particularly gout, measles,
gravel, dropsy &c. Is our ~~power~~ success
in these cases to be ascribed to their being
artificial diseases? and does nature forbid
the same success in such as are natural, on

exhausted state of their provisions and
ammunition. In making these remarks

^{In delivering}
~~while I was delivering them~~ Caution a-
-gainst the Attempts to stave fever out
of the System, I must bear a testimony
against an opinion now very popular
in Great Britain, and that is, that fevers
cure themselves, or that they do not
terminate in death when left to run
their course. It may be true with some
of the mild fevers of that Country in which
patients recover under the Use of the spirit
of Mindererus - James's powder & Abutions
of Cold water; but, ^{the} fevers of this Country
require a ~~a~~ very different mode of treat-
-ment. Even the mildest of our Autumn-
-nal fevers end in death or chronic
Diseases or Disorders when not met

Common in uncivilized ~~to~~ and semi-
-ple life - such as Jews? -

by depleting, or stimulating remedies, or
 by both of them in their successive stages.
 If we do not ~~beautify~~ ^{force} shorten
 the duration of a fever by our remedies
 we lessen its violence, and thereby save
 the system from ~~permanent~~ slow ~~consequences~~
^{= disease} or permanent ^{Disorder} ~~inconsequences~~. In this
 respect we imitate the mariner ~~who~~
 a storm, ~~who~~ with a ~~flattered~~
 leaky vessel. He ^{is unable} ~~does not attempt~~ to
 compose the winds, and the leaky parts
 of his ship are beyond the reach of his
 skill to stop them. In this situation he
 throws part of his cargo overboard, and
 thus lessens the ^{induced by its weight} ~~weight~~ ^{in his}
 ship. ~~induced by its weight~~ ^{when}
 the ~~load~~ ^{storm} outside, he gently expends his
 sails, ~~and~~ to be ~~stimulated~~ by gentle
 breezes of wind, and thus conducts his

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✓ This Advice agrees exactly with
that given by Dr Sydenham for the
Cure of fever. His Words are "The
Physician has nothing more to do
than to suit the treatment to the
Nature of the Disease, so as on the
one hand to prevent its rising too high,
and causing dangerous symptoms,
and on the other hand to keep it from
sinking so low as to keep it for he
unable to expel the morbid matter;
or in more ^{familiar} connect ^{consider} lay it out to ^{produce}
a fever in the same light that we do a pot of water
~~by a great quantity of it is poured~~
upon a fire, ~~which the water will over~~ ^{the fire} ~~the fire~~ ^{that we wish to preserve at a moderate}
^{temperature} ~~when it boils over upon the fire.~~
when it becomes too cool - increase the fire.

his ship ~~and~~ in safety to his wished
for harbour. ✓

I have ^{mentioned} ~~said that~~ ^{the Dangers of attempting} ~~it is not safe to attempt~~ to shorten
the Duration of violent fevers by pro-
-crust ~~then~~ depleting or stimulating
remedies; I shall now add that ~~still~~
~~in this~~ So we often save life by pro-
-longing their Duration. ~~by means of~~
~~depleting remedies.~~ ^{bilious} A fever which would
have killed ^{by its violence} in its first paroxysm is often
protracted to a 3rd a 5. and a 7th paroxysm
by means of depleting remedies, and ~~life~~
the system thereby saved from de-
-struction. ~~It is this~~ ~~error~~ of the physi-
-cian who thus prolongs the disease &
the life of his patient seldom gets any
credit by his skill - for neither his patient
nor the public know any of the nature

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The Remedy for fever when for -

and are sedative, & stimulating. I shall first treat upon sedatives. They

the malignant - the

~~Synochus fortis~~ the
Synochus fortis - the Synochus - the Synochus
Synochus fortis - the Synochus - the Synochus
Synochus fortis - the Synochus - the Synochus

Synochus fortis - the Synocha - *Synochus grisea*
and occasionally in the Synochoid - the
Synochus grisea & in some of the
lenticular forms of *Synochus*.

or in other words in all those forms of
 power in which there are marks of
 a lower the natural

over us
involved excitement about the natural
force of the pulse. The $\frac{1}{2}$ of those
- ~~and~~ ^{egg} ~~left~~ ^{Evacuants}

Remedies ~~for~~ ^{are} Bloodletting. Evacuants,
and of those that is Bloodletting.





